

3. REPORTING FACILITY (List all locations where animals were housed or used in actual research, testing, or experimentation, or held for these purposes. Attach additional sheets if necessary)

REPORT OF ANIMALS USED BY OR UNDER CONTROL OF RESEARCH FACILITY (Attach additional sheets if necessary or use APHIS Form 7023A)

ASSURANCE STATEMENTS

- | | | |
|---|--|-------------|
| CERTIFICATION BY HEADQUARTERS RESEARCH FACILITY OFFICIAL
(Chief Executive Officer or Legally Responsible Institutional Official) | | |
| SIGNATURE OF C.E.O. OR INSTITUTIONAL OFFICIAL | NAME & TITLE OF C.E.O. OR INSTITUTIONAL OFFICIAL (Type or Print) | DATE SIGNED |
| b6, b7c | | 11/21/08 |

Swarthmore College
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

NOV 24 2008

(b)(6), (b)(7)c

Summary of Exceptions to Welfare Regulations

1. One hundred and twenty Siberian (aka Djungarian) hamsters (*Phodopus sungorus*) will be housed in a temperature-controlled chamber for studies of torpor use and dietary lipid choice in cold situations. They will be held at temperatures no lower than 5 °C (41 °F) and no higher than 30 °C (86 °F). The hamsters will be properly housed in every other way and provided cotton as a nesting material for additional floor insulation. Although page 73 (§3.26) of the Animal Welfare Regulations states, "The ambient temperature shall not be allowed to fall below 60 °F nor exceed 85 °F", Siberian hamsters commonly experience much lower winter temperatures in the wild, therefore animals are naturally accustomed to such conditions. In IACUC-approved published studies using temperatures designed to fall within the range experienced by this species in nature, furless Siberian hamsters have been successfully held at 5 °C without cotton bedding for 5 weeks (e.g., Kauffman et al. 2001). To eliminate problems occasionally associated with large changes in ambient temperature, treatments will be timed so that hamsters never experience a temperature change of more than 10 °C per day. Animals will also receive cotton bedding as nesting material. Because the use of torpor and the influence of low ambient temperature on diet choice can be studied only at lower temperatures than those maintained in the regular animal housing, the IACUC has approved this use of the controlled temperature chamber.

Kauffman AS, Cabrera A and Zucker I. 2001. Torpor characteristics and energy requirements of furless Siberian hamsters. *Physiol. Biochem. Zool.* 74:876-884.

2. In studies of circadian rhythms, endogenous rhythms are discovered by housing animals in constant conditions of light or dark cycles. Siberian hamsters are kept in constant darkness during the time period required for observing the free-running circadian rhythm, which is the rhythm exhibited when there are no clues to the actual 24-hour day/night cycle. This is a standard procedure that has been used to investigate circadian rhythms in nocturnal rodents since the 1960's (e.g., Aschoff 1960) and continues to be in common use today (e.g., Hofstetter et al. 2005). A maximum of one hundred and twenty animals will be used. The IACUC has approved housing Siberian hamsters in constant darkness for experiments concerning circadian rhythms.

Aschoff J. 1960. Exogenous and endogenous components in circadian rhythms. *Cold Spr Harbor Symp Quant Biol* 25:11-28.

Hofstetter JR, Hofstetter AR, Hughes AM and Mayeda AR. 2005. Intermittent long-wavelength red light increases the period of daily locomotor activity in mice. *J Circad Rhythms* 3:8.

Summary of Exceptions to Welfare Regulations Continued

3. Page 75 (§3.29(d) Feeding.) of the Animal Welfare Act and Animal Welfare Regulations states that "All food receptacles shall be kept clean and shall be sanitized at least once every 2 weeks". On average, approximately 260 Siberian hamsters (*Phodopus sungorus*) will be used each year as subjects for experiments involving dietary manipulations. In many cases, hamsters are given a choice between 2 food options. Hamster chow 'pellets' are coated or flavored with the experimental substance and are later counted and weighed in order to determine preference and intake. Allowing the cage tops or food receptacles to remain untouched during the experimental period will eliminate the chance of food pellets being mixed between divided hopper compartments as well as prevent any pellets from mistakenly being discarded. Research studies will run anywhere between 2-12 weeks. Under any circumstance in which the food in the hoppers may become moldy or deteriorated, or hoppers become caked with decaying food, the cage tops will be changed and sanitized immediately. Cage tops will be changed and sanitized at the conclusion and start of each experiment. The IACUC has approved changing cage tops in between experiments.

October 29, 2007.